

**COMPUTER-BASED MULTI-MEDIA
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD**

Abstract of the Invention

5 Outgoing multi-media data components are provided in a communication system and method implemented under control of a user interface program. Each of the outgoing multi-media data components includes one or more types of information (e.g., textual information, graphical information, and audio information). Two or more outgoing multi-media data components are 10 combined under control of a local user via input to the user interface program resulting in combined outgoing multi-media mail. At least one of the two or more outgoing multi-media data components is of a type of information different than another of the two or more outgoing multi-media data components. The combined outgoing multi-media mail is provided for communication to a remote location.

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